

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 and 10-14 are currently pending. Claims 1, 6, and 10 have been amended by the present amendment. The amendments to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-8 and 10-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention; and Claims 1-8 and 10-14 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the interview with Applicants' representatives on October 22, 2009, at which time the outstanding rejections of Claims 1-8 and 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, were discussed, as substantially summarized hereinafter. At the end of the discussion, the Examiner indicated that the proposed amendments to independent Claims 1, 6, and 10 appeared to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejections of the claims, and that further consideration was required based on a formal submission.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejections of Claims 1-8 and 10-14, independent Claims 1, 6, and 10 have been amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention.

Accordingly, as discussed during the interview, the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejections of Claims 1-8 and 10-14 are believed to have been overcome.

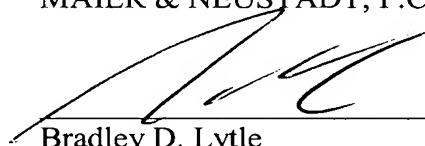
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

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